

Segal-Cover and Martin-Quinn Measures Codebook

December 12, 2012

This codebook provides details on the data file (measures.dta) providing the Segal-Cover and Martin-Quinn ideal points for justices serving on the U.S. Supreme Court. The supplemental file (mergeMeasures.do) facilitates easy merging of these data in STATA with any chosen Justice Centered Data file available from the Supreme Court Database website. The latest version of the data file, supplemental file, and codebook are available at: <http://scdb.wustl.edu/data.php?s=5>

If using the Segal-Cover scores, please cite:

Jeffrey A. Segal and Albert D. Cover. 1989. "Ideological Values and the Votes of U.S. Supreme Court Justices." *American Political Science Review* 83: 557-565.

If using the Martin-Quinn scores, please cite:

Andrew D. Martin and Kevin M. Quinn. 2002. "Dynamic Ideal Point Estimation via Markov Chain Monte Carlo for the U.S. Supreme Court, 1953-1999." *Political Analysis* 10: 134-153.

Variable List

Variable	Description
<i>justice</i>	Unique SCDB identification number for each justice
<i>justiceName</i>	The justice's last name
<i>term</i>	The term in which the justice served
<i>mqScore</i>	Martin-Quinn score (posterior mean)
<i>scQual</i>	Segal-Cover Qualifications score
<i>scIdeology</i>	Segal-Cover Ideology score

Variable Notes

justice

The value for each justice is assigned in accordance to each justice's unique identifier specified in the Supreme Court Database ("justice"). Each justice receives just one identification number. The values are available in the documentation on the SCDB webpage and reflected the updated 2012 values.

Source: SCDB Documentation

(<http://scdb.wustl.edu/documentation.php?var=justice#norms>)

justiceName

The justice's last name.

Source: Martin-Quinn scores website (<http://mqscores.wustl.edu/>)

term

The term in which each justice served on the Supreme Court.

Source: SCDB Documentation

(<http://scdb.wustl.edu/documentation.php?var=term>)

mqScore

The Martin-Quinn score measures the ideal point of each justice's revealed policy preference from the October 1937 term to the present. Each justice has a separate measure for each term in which he or she served.

Source: Martin-Quinn scores website (<http://mqscores.wustl.edu/>)

scQual

The Segal-Cover Qualification score measures the level of qualification of each Supreme Court nominee. Only the confirmed nominees are included in this dataset. Each justice is given one score, unless the justice serves as the Chief Justice. If a justice serves as both associate and chief justice (e.g. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist), the justice receives two separate scores.

Source: Perceived Qualifications and Ideology of Supreme Court Nominees website (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/polisci/jsegal/QualTable.pdf>)

scIdeology

The Segal-Cover Ideology score measures the ideology of each Supreme Court nominee. The detail of this variable is the same with *scQual*.

Source: Perceived Qualifications and Ideology of Supreme Court Nominees website (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/polisci/jsegal/QualTable.pdf>)